

## WE HAVE AN ADVOCATE

1 John 2:1-2

**1 John 2:1 - 2** *My little children:* Expression of endearment....of deep concern and compassion.

Palmer: *This is a key passage in 1 John and its theological significance is crucial in the development of our whole understanding of the atoning ministry of Jesus Christ.*

**1 And if any man sin..**

Stay away from sin but if you sin here is important news for you!

Stott: *It is possible to be both too lenient and too severe towards sin. Too great a lenience would seem almost to encourage sin in a Christian by stressing God's provision for the sinner. An exaggerated severity, on the other hand, would either deny the possibility of a Christian sinning or refuse him forgiveness and restoration if he falls. Both extreme positions are contradicted by John.*

**Advocate** To call to one's side, one who comes alongside...who appears on another's behalf, a mediator, helper, someone called to aid the one who calls for his services.

**Comforter:** Jn 14:16,26;15:26; 16:7 - 11 Two advocates: Jesus Christ ... Holy Spirit

**Jesus Christ:** standing at right hand of Father interceding for us—our legal advocate...pleading our case.

**Holy Spirit:** on earth, interceding for saints. Romans 8:26 - 27

Jesus Christ & Holy Spirit are praying

Jesus, John 17, praying to Father for us

Holy Spirit, Rom 8, praying for us

Rev 12:10 accuser of brethren

Jesus steps up to bar of God's righteousness: I paid price for sin by my blood. Paid in full! I bore that sin in my own body on the cross.

Chafer: *The righteous ground of His death for sin secures the believer's release...so far as divine condemnation is concerned. God accepts always the death of His Son as the basis of His release of those who have sinned.*

Stott: *If we have an advocate in heaven, Christ has an advocate on earth. The Holy Spirit is Christ's paraclete, as the Lord Jesus Christ is ours. But whereas the Holy Spirit pleads Christ's cause before a hostile world, Christ pleads our cause against our "accusers" and with the Father who loves and forgives His children.*

**Jesus Christ the Righteous.** Without sin, just, holy, pure

Only through a righteous Savior could we be cleansed from all unrighteousness!

3:3 He is pure

3:5 In Him is no sin

3:7 He is righteous

2 Corinthians 5:21 ; 1 Peter 3:18

**Propitiation:**

Secular definition: to cause to become favorably inclined, to win or regain the good will of : appease or conciliate ; to pacify the anger of someone.

Sinful man cannot directly approach God. Sin always means death! Ezekiel 18:4,

Ark of covenant—center/focal point in tabernacle. Jehovah meet priests who represented people (Ex 25:22; 37:1-9). Ark only piece of furniture in Holy of Holies.

In wooden box (acacia wood) placed three things:

1. Two tables of the law (given by God to Moses).
2. Golden pot of manna.
3. Aaron's rod that budded.

On top of Ark a golden lid called Mercy Seat. 2 golden Cherubim on cover—symbols of presence and approachability of Lord.

Dr. Howard Hanke (Thompson Chain ref—Companion ref book): ...*The Shekinah glory, typifying God's presence, hung over the ark of the covenant (Ex. 40:35)*

*The room in which the ark was located was a perfect cube. Once each year on the Day of Atonement, the high priest carried the names of the people on his breast and shoulders and made peace with God for their sins. First, the high priest sacrificed a bullock for himself and his fellow priests. The censer with live coals was placed inside the Holy of Holies so that the smoke might cover the mercy seat. The priest then sprinkled blood from the bullock upon the mercy seat and floor.*

*After the high priest made an atonement for himself and his house (Lev 16:6) he presented two goats "Levitcus 16:7 - 8*

The blood of the goat killed for a sin offering taken within veil and sprinkled upon and before mercy seat. Leviticus 16:16

Mercy Seat is same word used in Greek for Propitiation. Lev. 16:14 Heb 9:5; Rom 3:25

...the blood-sprinkled body of Christ on the cross has long ago become the mercy seat for the sinner once and for all. It is there accordingly that God in righteousness can meet the sinner with salvation and restore the saint to communion. The mercy seat becomes a perpetual throne of grace. What otherwise would be an awful judgment throne is changed to one of infinite mercy.

...*for the sins of the whole world.* Available to all.